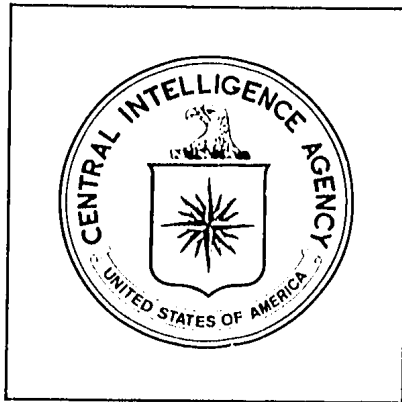


Approved For Release 1
2008/10/27 :
CIA-RDP86T00608R000500010

Approved For Release
2008/10/27 :
CIA-RDP86T00608R000500010

Secret



STAFF NOTES:

Western Europe Canada International Organizations

State Dept. review
completed

Secret

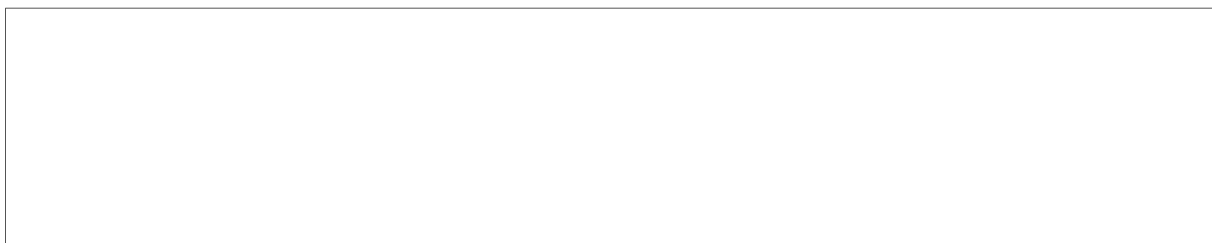
130
No. 0242-75
August 7, 1975

Page Denied

WESTERN EUROPE — CANADA — INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the Western Europe Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

CONTENTS



25X6

UN Discusses Review of its Charter 4



25X1

August 7, 1975

-i-

SECRET

Page Denied

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Denied

SECRET

25X1



UN Discusses Review of its Charter

Despite frequent criticism of the UN Charter by many members, the 42-member Charter Review committee that is currently meeting in New York to discuss possible revisions has not mustered much interest in its proceedings. As only a few countries spoke during the first week of debate, the committee chairman resorted to soliciting speakers before opening a meeting.

The developing countries in particular are the strongest proponents of amendment of the UN Charter, although certain developed countries--such as Italy and Japan--also support some review. Arguing that most of them were not even UN members when its rules were drawn up, the developing nations contend that the immediate post World War II power relationships that influenced many of the Charter's provisions are now irrelevant or outdated. Many also deeply resent the veto power held by the five permanent members of the Security Council and--as in the case of South Africa's suspension from the General Assembly session last year--feel justified in resorting to illegal actions to accomplish their objectives.

This resentment was pointed out by Sierra Leone during its presentation this week when it argued that as the UK and France are no longer the powers they were in 1945, they should lose their positions as permanent Security Council members. Instead, permanent Council seats should be allocated on the basis of representation for the five geographical groups--with the African states, for example, picking up one of the thus vacated permanent seats.

August 7, 1975

-4-

SECRET

SECRET

25X1

Desultory proceedings are unlikely to continue indefinitely, however. The committee includes such high-powered and vocal review advocates as Algeria, the Philippines and China, and despite a slow start, it appears unlikely that such countries would acquiesce in a totally non-productive session.

August 7, 1975

-5-

SECRET

Page Denied

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied